Air Resources Board



Mary D. Nichols, Chairman

9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4 El Monte, California 91731 www.arb.ca.gov



November 20, 2007

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To: All On-Road Engine and Vehicle Manufacturers

All Other Interested Parties

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKSHOP TO PRESENT NEW PROCEDURES AND

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING MOBILE SOURCE EMISSIONS CERTIFICATION APPLICATIONS ELECTRONICALLY TO THE ARB FOR LIGHT-DUTY AND MEDIUM-DUTY VEHICLE CATEGORIES.

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop to update the manufacturers on the ARB's Information Technology Initiative for emissions certification of new on-road vehicles and engines through E-Cert. E-Cert is the ARB's electronic certification submission system that receives test group specific certification application information. It is being developed cooperatively with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). E-Cert is currently accepting motorcycle application submissions and is being enhanced to include on-road vehicle application submissions. The staff will present the data requirements, the Extensible Markup Language (XML) schema and a brief demonstration of E-Cert's File Upload Submission website. The meeting will be held at the following time and location:

Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2008 Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (PST)

Location: Annex IV Auditorium

9528 Telstar Avenue El Monte, CA 91731

The goal of the initiative is to design and put into use an electronic certification information submittal system for on-road engine and vehicle manufacturers. To date, E-Cert has shown to be effective in increasing efficiency for motorcycle submissions and the certification review process. The ARB has generally required on-road vehicle manufacturers to submit certification applications to the ARB in a hard copy form. The new electronic system is intended to address the manufacturers' concerns over the cost and time required to prepare and mail hard copy applications, and is anticipated to improve the efficiency of the ARB's on-road vehicle certification review process.

The primary objective of the system is to facilitate the ARB's ability to electronically accept, organize, and track the review of the manufacturer's certification applications. Manufacturers will be able to directly access E-Cert's File Upload Submission website via the internet to load their XML formatted applications. Electronic submission will also

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California Environmental Protection Agency

All Interested Parties November 20, 2007 Page 2 of 2

facilitate the filing, storage, and retrieval of these applications, and will greatly reduce paper and storage needs.

At the workshop, staff will describe in detail the capabilities and features of E-Cert, discuss procedures and requirements that manufacturers must follow while submitting applications to E-Cert, the relationship between E-Cert and the Document Management System (DMS), and the roll-out schedule for the various on-road categories. Staff will include a demonstration of the process that manufacturers will need to follow to submit applications to the E-Cert system. Specifically, the demonstration will cover:

- 1. Required standardized file naming conventions.
- 2. Uploading XML files into E-Cert through the file submission website.

The ARB plans to switch to the use of E-Cert for all on-road light-duty and medium-duty vehicle categories in a phased-in manner during the 2008 calendar year. As a result, manufacturers need to learn how to use E-Cert's File Upload Submission website in order to ensure a smooth transition. Prior to the workshop, a more detailed meeting agenda and any relevant handouts will be available on the ARB's website at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/arbecert/arbecert.htm

If you have a disability-related accommodation need, please go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm for assistance or contact the ADA Coordinator at (916) 323-4916. If you are a person who needs assistance in a language other than English, please go to http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eeo/languageaccess.htm or contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 324-5029.

We welcome your participation. If you cannot attend, but would like to provide comments, or if you have questions regarding the workshop, please contact Mr. Robert Gammariello, Manager of the Data Development Services Section, at (626) 450-6138 or by e-mail at rgammari@arb.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Annette Hebert, Chief Mobile Source Operations Division